

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00  
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 SP-02  
SS-15 NSC-05 /051 R

DRAFTED BY EB/AN:ARIMAS:BA  
APPROVED BY EB/AN:RABROWN  
CAB:FMURPHY  
AF/W:ELOLLIS

-----011647Z 010354 /42

R 312136Z MAR 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: USG/FMG BILATERAL TALKS

REF: A) LAGOS 3053, B) LAGOS 2273

1. IN VIEW EMBASSY'S RECOMMENDATION TO HOLD EARLY CIVAIR TALKS, WE PROPOSE TO HOLD NEGOTIATIONS WITH FMG STARTING MAY 16 IN WASHINGTON. IT IS SUGGESTED THAT EMBASSY TRANSMIT TO FMG NOTE ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

QUOTE....AND HAS THE HONOR TO CONVEY TO THE FMG A PROPOSAL FROM THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT THAT DELEGATIONS REPRESENTING THE RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS MEET FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONDUCTING NEGOTIATIONS WITH A VIEW TOWARD REACHING A MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT. IT IS FURTHER PROPOSED THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS BE HELD FROM  
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MAY 16 THROUGH MAY 20, 1977 IN WASHINGTON. (COMPLIMENTARY CLOSE). UNQUOTE

2. EARLY NIGERIAN RESPONSE WOULD BE APPRECIATED SO THAT NECESSARY ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS COULD BE MADE. IF NIGERIANS AGREE TO DATES, WE NEED LIST OF THEIR DELEGATION.

3. DETAILED COMPARISON OF US AND NIGERIAN TEXTS IS UNDERWAY. WE HAVE ALREADY SPOTTED DIFFICULTIES WITH NIGERIAN TEXT RATE ARTICLE, CAPACITY ARTICLE, ARBITRATION CLAUSE, MULTIPLE DESIGNATION AND POSSIBLY OTHERS.

4. DEPARTMENT WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S ASSESSMENT OF POSSIBLE NIGERIAN POSITION WITH RESPECT TO THE FOLLOWING: WHAT ROUTE STRUCTURE WOULD NIGERIANS SEEK FOR THEIR OWN AIRLINE, AND WHAT ROUTES WOULD THEY BE WILLING TO GRANT TO THE US? WOULD THEY SEEK TO LIMIT US ACCESS TO INTERMEDIATE AND POINTS BEYOND LAGOS? WOULD SERVICE TO SOUTH AFRICA POSE DIFFICULTIES? WOULD NIGERIANS ACCEPT AGREEMENT ALONG LINES US TEXT WITH NO PREDETERMINATION CLAUSE?

5. DEPARTMENT ADVISES UTMOST EMBASSY DISCRETION IN COLLECTING INFORMATION REQUESTED PARA 5 ABOVE. WE DO NOT WISH TO SIGNAL OUR CONCERNS TO NIGERIANS AT THIS TIME. IF INFORMATION CANNOT BE OBTAINED WITHOUT THE RISK OF TIPPING OUR HAND, EMBASSY SHOULD SO ADVISE DEPARTMENT.

CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CIVIL AVIATION, NEGOTIATIONS  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Office:** ORIGIN EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
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**Reference:** 77 LAGOS 3053, 77 LAGOS 2273  
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**To:** LAGOS  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009